Thursday, *the* *29th July 1943* / *13th Karkadagam 1118*

The Council met in the Council Hall, Ernakulam, at half past eleven of the clock with the Hon'ble President (A. F. W. DIXON Esq., C.I.E., I.C.S.) in the Chair.

Messrs. Popatlal Goverdhan Lalan, T. P. Poulose and H. J. Walmesley were absent.

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

EPIDEMICS—INCREASE OF—STEPS TAKEN TO PREVENT

22. Mr. V. J. Mathai *(Planters):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether Government are aware that diseases like Typhoid, Malaria and Cholera are on the increase in the State;

(*b*) whether the mosquito and fly nuisance are not growing;

(*c*) whether the Public Health Department are coping with the situation with success?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):*

(*a*) There is some increase in the incidence of infectious diseases as Cholera, Typhoid and Malaria in the State.

(*b*) There is no evidence that mosquito or fly nuisance has abnormally increased.

(*c*) The Department is doing everything possible to reduce incidence and to prevent the spread of the above diseases.

Mr. A. Eachara Menon *(Chittur-Rural):* Was Trichur infested with mosquitoes now as some two years back?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* Always there were mosquitoes. Even now, there are mosquitoes. I do not know whether it is on the increase.

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* May I know what are the steps taken to reduce the incidence of infectious diseases and to prevent the spread of the disease?

Mr. T. K. Nayar *(Minister for Rural Development):* Anti-infectious measures, inoculation, etc. That is all that we could do and next year there is a proposal to have anti-mosquito campaign in Ernakulam and Mattancheri.

POSTS OF MENIALS—REPRESENTATION TO UNREPRESENTED COMMUNITIES

23. Mr. K. R. Achyutan *(Ezhuvas-Trichur):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) whether they have repeatedly issued circulars to appointing authorities to give preference to applicants from communities which are inadequately represented in the State Service, when they make appointments to posts of menials;

(*b*) if the answer to (*a*) is in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to place on the Council Table a copy each of the said circular or circulars?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):*

(*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Copies of the circulars are placed on the Council Table.

Mr. K. R. Achyutan *(Ezhuvas-Trichur):* What necessitated the Government to issue the series of circulars to the Departmental heads?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* Practically, it was done at the instance of this House. On more than one occasion it came up before this House and we brought to the notice of the Heads of Departments once again that these inequalities should be removed.

Mr. K. R. Achyutan *(Ezhuvas-Trichur):* Are we to take it that the departmental heads are not obeying the orders?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government):* They are obeying the orders; but still it is always better to remind them once again.

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Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North)*: May I know whether the mahouts are appointed by the Government?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests)*: They are only in the temporary establishment and they are not within the purview of the Staff Selection Board.

Mr. M. Krishna Menon *(Trichur-North)*: Is the principle of communal rotation followed in the matter of their appointments?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests)*: It is not possible to follow that principle.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan *(Vadakkancheri)*: Is there any demand that communal representation should be extended even in the matter of appointment of mahouts?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests)*: Such a demand has not been made.

APPOINTMENTS OF Rs. 60 AND ABOVE UP TO Rs. 100—PARTICULARS OF

24 **Mr. K. T. Achyutan** *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli)*: Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) how many new appointments from outside (officiating and permanent) were made in the State Service the initial salary of which is Rs. 60 and above up to Rs. 100 and the respective communities to which they belong;

(*b*) the same as above the initial salary of which is Rs. 100 and above and the respective communities to which they belong?

N.B.—The above questions does not take in the promotions given from the service.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: Without stating the period during which the appointments were made, it is not possible to furnish the required information.

Mr. K. T. Achyutan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli)*: May I know, Sir, with reference to answer to sub-division (*b*) whether the same principle has been adopted in the appointment of officers over Rs. 100, as is followed by the Staff Selection Board and accepted by Government?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: As far as possible, the claims of unrepresented communities have been considered.

Mr. K. T. Achyutan *(Ezhuvas-Talappalli)*: May I know the number of appointments in 1118?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: I want notice.

COMPOSITE TAX SYSTEM—DELAY IN INTRODUCTION OF

25. **Mr. Shabdai S. Koder** *(Nominated)*: Will Government be pleased to state the reason for the delay in introducing the composite tax system?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: Some points connected with the composite license fee for motor vehicles are under correspondence with the Madras Government. The system can be introduced only after an agreement is reached with that Government in regard to these points, as it has to be brought into force in the State and in British Cochin simultaneously.

Mr. Shabdai S. Koder *(Nominated)*: How long has this subject been under the consideration of Government?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: For very nearly 2 years.

Mr. Shabdai S. Koder *(Nominated)*: What was the possible delay in coming to an understanding?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: There are certain minor details to be decided upon and even now we are in correspondence.

Mr. Shabdai S. Koder *(Nominated)*: Is the delay on our side?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: It is due to the laxity of both the Governments.

Mr. M. Sivarama Menon *(Advocate-General)*: The District Municipalities Act of British India will have to be amended to enable the Madras Government to adopt this.

Mr. Shabdai S. Koder *(Nominated)*: Has the Madras Government amended the Municipalities Act.

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: The Madras Government are taking steps to amend it.

Mr. Shabdai S. Koder *(Nominated)*: Will the Government be pleased to request them to expedite the matter?

Rama Varmha Tampuran *(Secretary to Government)*: Even yesterday a report has gone to them.

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